Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-25. (canceled)

26. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~2~~55, wherein the analyte compound is follicle stimulating hormone.

27-34. (canceled)

35. (previously presented) The method according to claim 55, wherein the first and second specific binding agents are antibodies.

36. (previously presented) The method according to claim 35, wherein each binding agent is a monoclonal antibody.

37-43. (canceled)

44. (previously presented) The method of claim 55, wherein in the first reacting step, the sample is incubated with a solid phase on which is immobilized the first binding agent, and thereafter, following removal of unbound analyte compound, the solid phase is incubated with the second binding agent.

45. (previously presented) The method of claim 44, wherein in the second reacting step, the sample is substantially simultaneously incubated with a solid phase to which the first binding reagent is immobilized and with the second binding agent in solution or suspension.

46. (previously presented) The method of claim 55, wherein in the second reacting step, the sample is substantially simultaneously incubated with a solid phase to which the first binding reagent is immobilized and with the second binding agent in solution or suspension.

47. (previously presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the first or second binding agent is labeled with a label selected from the group consisting of enzymes, fluorescent labels, radiolabels and direct particulate labels.

48. (previously presented) The method of claim 55, wherein one of the first or second binding agents comprises an anti-FSH antibody expressed by hybridoma cell line ECACC 00032004.

49. (previously presented) The method of claim 55, wherein one of the first or second binding agents comprises an anti-FSH antibody expressed by hybridoma cell line ECACC 00032005.

50. (previously presented) The method of claim 55, wherein one of the first or second binding agents comprises an anti-FSH antibody expressed by hybridoma cell line ECACC 00032004 and the other comprises an anti-FSH antibody expressed by hybridoma cell line ECACC 00032005.

51 – 54. (canceled)

55. (Currently amended) A method, comprising:

(a) providing a sample obtained from a human female, the sample comprising an analyte compound~~,~~ which is a member of the gonadotrophin family ~~the analyte compound being present in at least two different states, wherein a relative abundance of the two states of the analyte compound is related to the menopausal status of the female;~~

(b) providing a first and a second binding agent, wherein the first binding agent is specific to a first form of the analyte compound characteristic of a menopausal state and the second binding agent is specific to a second form of the analyte compound characteristic of a pre-menopausal or fertile state; ~~specificity of at least one of the binding agents for the analyte compound is different for the two states of the analyte compound in the sample;~~

(c) reacting a first portion of the sample with the first binding agent to form a first binding agent/analyte compound complex and subsequently reacting the first binding agent/analyte compound complex with the second binding agent to form a first binding agent/analyte compound/second binding agent complex;

(d) reacting a second portion of the sample substantially simultaneously with the first binding agent and the second binding agent to form a first binding agent/analyte compound/second binding agent complex;

(e) determining the amount of first binding agent/analyte compound/second binding agent/complex formed in ~~each reacting~~ step (c) and step (d) and displaying the amounts as a ratio; and

(f) comparing the ratio obtained in step (e) to the ratio obtained from a pre-menopausal control, wherein a difference in the two ratios indicates that the human female is in a post-menopausal state ~~determining the menopausal status of the human female based at least in part on the relative amounts of first binding agent/analyte compound/second binding agent complex formed in each reacting step, which are indicative of the relative abundance of the two states of the analyte compound~~.